



Steve Radack, Commissioner

Harris County Precinct 3

PRECINCT THREE SECOND QUARTER REPORT 2013

Efforts to preserve the story of Cypress for future generations got a boost when the Harris County Historical Commission dedicated an Official State of Texas Historical Marker at Precinct Three Commissioner Steve Radack's Cypress Top Historic Park on June 14th.

Historians with the Cypress Historical Society (CHS) worked closely with Commissioner Radack's staff on securing the important marker for the unique park, which was dedicated as a Precinct Three facility in November 2008 and is located at 26026 Old Hempstead Highway.

The park contains many original structures that transport patrons back to the days when determined immigrants tamed this part of Texas and hoped the arrival of the railroad would make the small frontier stop a major hub of activity and commerce.

The sophisticated bustle of big city growth never materialized with the expansion of rail and the little hub was frozen in a time when life was simpler. That snapshot is now what visitors to the park can enjoy as they tour an old general store, barber shop, service station, grist mill, dance hall, one room house and other structures preserved by Commissioner Radack and other lovers of local history.

The CHS is also housed at the park in a train depot replica built by Commissioner Radack. The park is open seven days a week from dawn to dusk. The buildings are only open on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Full tours led by CHS members begin from Juergen's Hall at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The park and museum buildings are open to all and, as with all events offered at the park, admissions and tours are free.

The CHS is at the train depot every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and also on the third Saturday of the month from noon to 3 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to drop in and learn about the rich history of Cypress.

Annual Memorial Day ceremony a success

More than 375 people attended Commissioner Radack's annual Memorial Day ceremony at the Harris County War Memorial in Bear Creek Pioneers Park.

Veterans, their families and members of the public paid tribute to the fallen at the War Memorial, which located at 3535 War Memorial Drive near the park entrance off Eldridge.

The solemn ceremony included presentation and posting of colors, the singing of *The National Anthem* and *America the Beautiful*, prayers, a wreath ceremony, 21-gun salute and military exhibition drills.

The guest speaker was Col. Leonard Waterworth, a distinguished and decorated veteran with an equally distinguished private sector career who was appointed in 2012 to serve as executive director of the Port of Houston Authority.

The Harris County War Memorial was built more than 27 years ago during the administration of former Precinct Three Commissioner Bob Eckels. It carries the names of

Harris County residents who paid the ultimate price in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the first war in the Persian Gulf, the war in Iraq and the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan.

In 2011, Commissioner Radack added the names of Merchant Marines killed during World War II to the monument. The names of those who served in the U.S. Coast Guard and died during various wars were also added. Names left off during the original construction from previous wars were also added in 2011. During times of war, new names are added yearly.

Anyone with questions about the monument can call the Precinct Three Parks Office at (281) 531-1592. Patrons can also visit the Precinct Three website at www.pct3.hctx.net to look up names listed on the Harris County War Memorial.

Free childhood immunizations hosted by Commissioner Radack

Immunizations for infants and those up to 18-years-old will be provided by Commissioner Radack and partnering agencies at the Precinct Three locations listed below. Please bring your child's shot records. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Dates, times and contact information for each location are listed below. Times are subject to change. For more information, call (713) 266-8193.

BEAR CREEK COMMUNITY CENTER

Immunizations provided by Harris Health System
3055 Bear Creek Drive, Houston, TX 77084, (281) 859-1566
Saturday, July 27th, 10 am - 2 pm
Wednesday, Aug. 7th, 10 am - 2 pm

MARY JO PECKHAM PARK

Immunizations provided by Texas Children Mobile Clinic Program
5597 Gardenia Lane, Katy, TX 77493, (281) 391-4482
Saturday, August 3rd, 8:30 am - 2:30 pm

TRINI MENDENHALL SOSA COMMUNITY CENTER

Immunizations provided by Christus Health
1414 Wirt Road, Houston, TX 77055, (713) 956-0881
Saturday, July 13th, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm

Big event for little birds.

Preparations are underway for Commissioner Radack's annual Kleb Woods Hummingbird Festival at the Kleb Woods Nature Center, 20303 Draper Road at Mueschke Road in Tomball. The popular event is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 14th this year from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

The event will again feature hummingbird experts, who will be capturing and banding the small birds and giving patrons a chance to closely examine the unique creatures. There will also be programs on identifying hummingbirds and how to document sightings. Other programs and events for the family-friendly festival are also being planned.

Admission to the event is free. Patrons are encouraged to bring their own drinks and snacks. None will be sold at the event. For more information, call (281) 357-5324.

July Precinct Three Blood Drive

Commissioner Steve Radack and the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center will host a blood drive Friday, July 12th from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Trini Mendenhall Sosa Community Center at 1414 Wirt Road. The event is open to the public. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call (713) 266-8193.

Swift Night Out

Commissioner Radack, along with the Houston Audubon Society and the Nature Discovery Center, will host a Swift Night Out at the Kleb Woods Nature Center, 20303 Draper Road in Tomball, on Thursday, Aug. 29th starting at 7 p.m.

Bird enthusiasts can gather to count and record the Chimney Swifts that gather at the Kleb Woods Nature Preserve Chimney Swift tower. The birds are making preparations for their annual migration to South America and the event is a chance to learn more about native birds and their migration. For more information, visit www.houstonaudubon.org or call (713) 640-2407 or (281) 357-5324.

Construction reports and staying informed

Updates on Precinct Three road and construction projects previously featured in this report can now be seen on Commissioner Radack's website at www.pct3.hctx.net. That data will be updated monthly since this report is now generated quarterly.

As always, Precinct Three encourages comments and questions. You can mail them to Commissioner Radack's office at 1001 Preston, 9th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 or email us at pct3@hctx.net.